

Applicant: Thomas Jung
Serial No.: 09/743,545
Amendment dated: July 7, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated: March 12, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 20-23, 25-29, 31 and 33-38 remain in the application with apparatus claim 20 and method claim 29 being independent.

The rejections under § 112 and § 101 based on “exposed” have been overcome by deletion of the word.

The independent claims have been amended to recite that all of the inner walls present a coating (whether a layer or the entire wall) and that the coating is removed and deposited on the object. Support for the first amendment in claim 1 is found on page 2, lines 21-25. Support for removal of a coating from the inner walls is found: page 2, line 28; pg. 3, lines 25-1; pg. 5, line 8-15 and pg. 7, line 25. The Kay et al. '816 patent discloses a cylindrical cathode with the ends 58 covered with a dielectric material. In contradistinction, the claims recite that all of the inner walls completely surrounding the object are coated for removal of the coating from all of the inner walls.

Since the references do not suggest the removal of material from the walls surrounding and out of contact with an object by an electrical potential, the claims are allowable.

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It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance,
which allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted

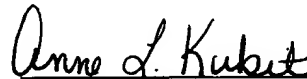
HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

July 7, 2004
Date


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the enclosed **AMENDMENT** and fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope and addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on July 7, 2004.


Anne L. Kubit

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